

Claims

1. A wireless telephone with selectable transmission modes for a call from said wireless telephone to a remotely-located receiver, said selectable transmission modes comprising a first wireless communication mode and a second wireless communication mode, said telephone comprising:

5 a user interface for user input of a dialing string for initiation of said call;
a first transceiver for communication in accordance with said first communication mode;
a second transceiver for communication in accordance with said second communication mode; and
a memory storing software comprising a set of instructions for responsively selecting said 10 first transceiver or said second transceiver for said call depending on the contents of said dialing string.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said remotely located receiver comprises a Bluetooth enabled device and wherein said second transceiver comprises a Bluetooth transceiver.

3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said first transceiver comprises an IEEE 802.11 transceiver.

4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said dialing string comprises a sequence of alphanumeric characters, and either # or * preceding or following said alphanumeric characters.

5. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein memory further stores a data structure associating

dialing strings to Bluetooth user ID numbers.

6. In a wireless telephone, a method of selecting a transmission mode for a call between said wireless telephone and a remotely located receiver, said wireless telephone having a first transceiver for communication in accordance with a first communication mode and a second transceiver for communication in accordance with a second communication mode, said first communication mode comprising a cellular telephony mode and said second communication mode being a local, free, non-cellular wireless communication mode, the method comprising:

receiving a dialing string from a user of the telephone for initiation of said call,

detecting attributes of said dialing string indicating that the user intends the call to be sent in accordance with said second transmission mode;

obtaining, either directly or indirectly, from said dialing string an identity of the receiver in accordance with said second communication mode;

establishing a communications session in accordance with said second communication mode between said wireless telephone and said receiver.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein said remotely located receiver comprises a Bluetooth enabled device and wherein said second transceiver comprises a Bluetooth transceiver.

8. The method of claim 6, wherein said second transceiver comprises an IEEE 802.11 transceiver.

9. The method of claim 6, wherein said dialing string comprises a sequence of alphanumeric

characters, and either # or * preceding or following said alphanumeric characters.

10. The method of claim 7, wherein said telephone includes a memory storing a database associating alphanumeric dialing strings to Bluetooth user ID numbers.